

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims 1-6:

1. (currently amended) A method for producing an aqueous solution of free hydroxylamine (HA) using simultaneous countercurrent treatment of ~~a solution of an aqueous~~ HA salt solution with ammonia or ammonia water at a process temperature, ~~separating~~separation of the HA solution obtained by ~~distilling~~distillation into aqueous solutions of HA and a salt fraction under a pressure above the atmospheric pressure, ~~reconcentrating~~reconcentration by ~~distilling~~distillation of the aqueous HA salt solution in the countercurrent with a strip medium in a reactive distillation column with a liquid-phase evaporator, ~~wherein~~characterized in that the stripping medium is a mixture of steam and a non-condensable inert gas and ~~controlling in that~~ the process temperature is controlled at a defined pressure by the quantity of non-condensable inert gas at the column inlet.
2. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~wherein~~characterized in that nitrogen is used as the non-condensable inert gas.
3. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of~~characterized in that~~ controlling the process temperature includes~~by~~ increasing the portion of non-condensable inert gas to results in a drop in temperature ~~and controlling the process temperature by decreasing the portion of said gas results in an increase in temperature.~~

4. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein characterized in that the process is performed at column pressures in the range from 1.05 to 2.5 bara; preferably from 1.1 to 1.8 bara.
5. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein characterized in that the weight of the non-condensable inert gas is 0.44 to 5.8 times; preferably 1.8 to 5.4 times the weight of the feeding quantity of the aqueous solution of HA salt.
6. (new) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of controlling the process temperature includes decreasing the portion of said gas to result in an increase in temperature.